

Table 44. Maternal mortality for complications of pregnancy, childbirth, and the puerperium, according to race, Hispanic origin, and age: United States, selected years 1950–99

[Data are based on the National Vital Statistics System]

<i>Race, Hispanic origin, and age</i>	<i>1950¹</i>	<i>1960¹</i>	<i>1970</i>	<i>1980</i>	<i>1990</i>	<i>1995</i>	<i>1996</i>	<i>1997</i>	<i>1998</i>	<i>1999²</i>
Number of deaths										
All persons	2,960	1,579	803	334	343	277	294	327	281	391
White	1,873	936	445	193	177	129	159	179	158	214
Black	1,041	624	342	127	153	133	121	125	104	154
American Indian or Alaska Native	---	---	---	3	4	1	6	2	2	5
Asian or Pacific Islander	---	---	---	11	9	14	8	21	17	18
Hispanic ³	---	---	---	---	47	43	39	57	42	67
White, non-Hispanic ³	---	---	---	---	125	84	114	121	116	149
Deaths per 100,000 live births										
All persons										
All ages, age adjusted	73.7	32.1	21.5	9.4	7.6	6.3	6.4	7.6	6.1	8.3
All ages, crude	83.3	37.1	21.5	9.2	8.2	7.1	7.6	8.4	7.1	9.9
Under 20 years	70.7	22.7	18.9	7.6	7.5	3.9	*	5.7	*	6.6
20–24 years	47.6	20.7	13.0	5.8	6.1	5.7	5.0	6.6	5.0	6.2
25–29 years	63.5	29.8	17.0	7.7	6.0	6.0	6.6	7.9	6.7	8.2
30–34 years	107.7	50.3	31.6	13.6	9.5	7.3	7.6	8.3	7.5	10.1
35 years and over ⁴	222.0	104.3	81.9	36.3	20.7	15.9	19.0	16.1	14.5	23.0
White										
All ages, age adjusted	53.1	22.4	14.4	6.7	5.1	3.6	4.1	5.2	4.2	5.5
All ages, crude	61.1	26.0	14.3	6.6	5.4	4.2	5.1	5.8	5.1	6.8
Under 20 years	44.9	14.8	13.8	5.8	*	*	*	*	*	*
20–24 years	35.7	15.3	8.4	4.2	3.9	3.5	*	4.2	3.1	4.0
25–29 years	45.0	20.3	11.1	5.4	4.8	4.0	4.0	5.4	4.9	5.4
30–34 years	75.9	34.3	18.7	9.3	5.0	4.0	5.0	5.4	4.9	7.0
35 years and over ⁴	174.1	73.9	59.3	25.5	12.6	9.1	14.9	11.5	11.0	16.6
Black										
All ages, age adjusted	---	92.0	65.5	24.9	21.7	20.9	19.9	20.1	16.1	23.3
All ages, crude	---	103.6	60.9	22.4	22.4	22.1	20.3	20.8	17.1	25.4
Under 20 years	---	54.8	32.3	13.1	*	*	*	*	*	*
20–24 years	---	56.9	41.9	13.9	14.7	15.3	15.1	15.3	12.7	14.0
25–29 years	---	92.8	65.2	22.4	14.9	21.0	25.5	24.3	17.2	26.6
30–34 years	---	150.6	117.8	44.0	44.2	31.2	28.6	32.9	27.7	36.1
35 years and over ⁴	---	299.5	207.5	100.6	79.7	61.4	49.9	40.4	37.2	69.9
Hispanic ^{3,5}										
All ages, age adjusted	---	---	---	---	7.4	5.4	4.8	7.6	5.2	7.9
All ages, crude	---	---	---	---	7.9	6.3	5.6	8.0	5.7	8.8
White, non-Hispanic ³										
All ages, age adjusted	---	---	---	---	4.4	3.3	3.9	4.4	4.0	4.9
All ages, crude	---	---	---	---	4.8	3.5	4.8	5.2	4.9	6.4

--- Data not available.

* Based on fewer than 20 deaths.

¹Includes deaths of persons who were not residents of the 50 States and the District of Columbia.

²Starting with 1999 data, changes have been made in the classification and coding of maternal deaths under ICD–10. The large increase in the number of maternal deaths between 1998 and 1999 is due to changes associated with ICD–10. See Appendix II, *International Classification of Diseases (ICD)*; and Rate: Death and related rates.

³Excludes data from States lacking an Hispanic-origin item on their death and birth certificates. See Appendix I, National Vital Statistics System.

⁴Rates computed by relating deaths of women 35 years and over to live births to women 35–49 years.

⁵Age-specific maternal mortality rates are not calculated because rates based on fewer than 20 deaths are unreliable.

NOTES: Rates are age adjusted to the 1970 distribution of live births by mother's age in the United States. See Appendix II, Age adjustment. For data years shown, the code numbers for cause of death are based on the then current *International Classification of Diseases*, described in Appendix II, tables IV and V. The race groups, white, black, Asian or Pacific Islander, and American Indian or Alaska Native, include persons of Hispanic and non-Hispanic origin. Conversely, persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. For 1950 and 1960, rates are based on live births by race of child; for all other years, rates are based on live births by race of mother. See Appendix I, National Vital Statistics System. Rates are not calculated for American Indian or Alaska Native and Asian or Pacific Islander mothers because rates based on fewer than 20 deaths are unreliable. Data for additional years are available (see Appendix III).

SOURCES: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. *Vital statistics of the United States, vol I, natality and vol II, mortality, part A*, for data years 1950–93. Public Health Service. Washington. U.S. Government Printing Office; for 1994–99, unpublished data.